

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1681
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
RASHTRIYA MADHYAMIK SHIKSHA ABHIYAN
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the drop out rate in elementary schools covered under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is 30 per cent;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch a new scheme named Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan;
- (d) if so, the details and salient features of the scheme; and
- (e) the allocation earmarked for the scheme and the time by when it is likely to be launched?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) & (b) The dropout rate at elementary level (class I to VIII) during 2004-05 was 50.8 percent. The main reasons for children dropping out, inter-alia, include distance to school, social and cultural barriers to girls education, inadequate school infrastructure, teacher vacancies, teacher absenteeism, skewed teacher deployment, lack of community involvement, etc.

(c) to (e) Central Government has decided to implement a centrally sponsored scheme for universalization of access to and improvement of quality of education at secondary stage during the 11th Five Year Plan. The objective of the scheme is to make secondary education of good quality available, accessible and affordable to all young persons by providing one secondary school within 5 kilometer of every habitation. The proposed scheme envisages:

- (i) provision of necessary infrastructure and resources for the existing secondary schools and for improvement in quality of learning in the schools;
- (ii) provision for filling the missing gaps in the existing secondary schools system;
- (iii) provision of extra support for education of girls and children of disadvantaged sections of the society; and
- (iv) a holistic convergent framework for implementation of various schemes in secondary education.

Some of the major components of the proposed scheme are,

- (i) new schools buildings,
- (ii) additional rooms including classrooms, laboratories, computer room, library room, toilet etc.,
- (iii) teaching-learning aids,
- (iv) School grant
- (v) teachers' in service training
- (vi) additional teachers,
- (vii) research and innovation,
- (viii) curricular reforms and (ix) Examinations reforms etc. The Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 20,120 Crore for the 11th Five Year Plan for various components of this scheme.